

## Greek envoy visits Amman

AMMAN (R) — An envoy visiting Arab states on Greece's plan to upgrade diplomatic ties with Israel arrived in Jordan Sunday, an embassy official said. Farouk, Minister-Secretary-General, Pan-Arab Economic Council, has visited Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Iraq and was to proceed to Lebanon later Sunday. "We have a new government in Greece and we want to renew the good contacts and relations with the Arab countries," the official said Sunday. "Raising the level of diplomatic contacts with Jordan in one of the topics Economic will discuss here like elsewhere on his tour." Greece, pressed by Arab for its support for Arab and Palestinian states, plans to upgrade its relations with Israel according to a pledge by new Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis. The senior mission in Amman has equal status to that of the Palestine Liberation Organization and various PLO factions have urged Mitsotakis not to grant Israel full diplomatic ties.

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# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Arafat meets Iceland premier

## All set for 'right of return' march

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

tories. "The will of the people is the strongest weapon against the enemy and your participation is a manifestation of this will," an advertisement appearing in local Arabic newspapers said.

Although many observers expected a low turnout today because it is a regular working day, organisers of the march and several political figures estimate a "minimum of 20,000 people" to turn up anyway.

"If this march was held on a Friday or a holiday hundreds of thousands of people would participate in it," contended a young man, who said his request for a day off from his company was granted.

Preparations for the march, which will start at 10 a.m. at the pilgrim's city in the Ghor's Nirim Valley, include transportation provided by the different professional associations as well as several public organisations (see route map and details on page 3).

The marchers will carry Jordanian and Palestinian flags as well as banners emphasising the Palestinians' right to return to their homeland and to establish an independent Palestinian state and denouncing the growing influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants into the Israeli-occupied territories.

Palestinian sources told the Jordan Times Sunday that the united leadership of the intifada has called for "escalating confrontation against the occupation authorities on May 12, 13 and 14 in support of the 'right of return' march."

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President Pusztai Nagy Ochirbat and Communist Party General Secretary Gombogayva Ochirbat, both in office since March, were met by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport, the TASS news agency reported. Mongolia, which has been ruled for nearly seven decades by the Communist Party and long has been dependent on the Soviet Union for political guidance and economic assistance, was swept by reforms this year.

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## Yemens merge armies as unity moves gather speed

SANA (R) — North and South Yemen have united their armed forces and agreed to withdraw them from their capitals in the latest swift move towards an historic merger due this month.

Officials and diplomats have widely predicted that a United Yemen would be declared before the end of May.

The Sanaa-based weekly 26 September quoted "reliable sources" on Sunday as saying the declaration would come during the last week of May, six months ahead of schedule.

"All arrangements for this historic event in the life of Yemen and the Arab nation have been completed and there remain only minor executive measures," the paper said.

North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh said Saturday the security forces of both countries had been dissolved.

"From now on there is no reason for the existence of the state security organ in Aden and the national security organ in Sanaa — both have been dissolved within the framework of the united state," Sanaa Radio quoted him as saying.

"It is our view that the capitals should be cleared of armed forces which should be withdrawn to defined military zones... rather than piling up weapons in the capitals," Saleh said.

Diplomats in Sanaa said the move cleared one of the main stumbling blocks to the merger. Saleh's government has strong

military backing while South Yemen wants a clear separation between the state and military.

"Armies will be moved to border areas of the new state and there will be a larger role in the cities for a unified police force," one diplomat said.

The weekly 26 September said Saleh and the head of the ruling South Yemeni Socialist Party, Ali Salem Al Baidh, would decide the date for a final meeting between both parliaments at a summit in Aden. It gave no date.

Both legislative bodies are due to ratify a draft constitution approved in November, in the last major step before the unity declaration.

A joint ministerial meeting will take place on May 20 to approve the rules of the merger process, the paper said.

Diplomats and officials in North Yemen say the merger has been speeded up to forestall any attempt to undermine the creation of the new state of 12 million people.

Saudi Arabia Sunday expressed renewed support for the union and denied a press report it was trying to sabotage the move by paying fractious Yemeni tribesmen near its borders.

Initial plans called for the state to be announced by Nov. 30

after a popular vote on the unity constitution.

Diplomats say the referendum has apparently been scrapped and the six-month transition period initially envisaged extended to two and a half years from the declaration date to allow ample time for ministries to merge and political parties to form.

Elections will be held at the end of that period.

Officials say Saleh will be named president of the united Yemen and Baidh vice-president. It was not known what would happen to the current South Yemeni President, Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas.

A transitional parliament will be formed with 31 representatives from newly-formed political parties, 159 North Yemeni deputies and 111 from South Yemen, officials say.

The new legislative body must ratify 53 draft unity laws.

North Yemen's foreign minister, Abdul Karim Al Iryani, has said the two ruling parties would continue to exist after the merger but new ones could continue to be formed.

South Yemen has been liberalising its economic institutions ahead of the merger.

Last Thursday it devalued its dinar by 24 per cent in a move which bankers said effectively merged with North Yemen's rial, taking the two closer to a common currency.

## 'CIA condoned training camp in Antigua'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel Television has reported that the CIA condoned a plan by an Israeli reserve colonel to set up a training camp for Panamanian rebels in Antigua and equip it with Israeli weapons.

The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) declined to comment on the report, which came as Antiguan investigators were in Israel to inquire about the Chadian refugees.

He did not specify when the Chadian refugees had moved into the Western Darfur region, but fighting between Chadian troops and rebels flared up around two months ago.

The official statement comes one day after Sudan claimed that Chadian government troops have abducted an unspecified number of Sudanese and Libyan citizens during a raid on western Sudan and called for their release.

A Foreign Ministry statement said Saturday the Chadian troops have also looted and damaged properties and demanded compensation although it gave no estimation.

The abducted people were on an ordinary trade trip from the

## Fighting drives 10,000 Chadians into Sudan

By MARGARET O'NEILL in Khartoum

REUTERS

KHARTOUM (AP) — Recent fighting between Chadian government troops and Libyan-backed rebels has driven 10,000 Chadian refugees into western Sudan where they need emergency support, an official said Sunday.

Commissioner of Refugees Abdul Rahman Sirul-Khatim said in a press statement that the new refugees have been moved to Kutan area, around 230 kilometers away from the border with Chad.

Sirul-Khatim said Sudanese officials had sent messages to Khartoum demanding "emergency food and medical aid for the Chadian refugees."

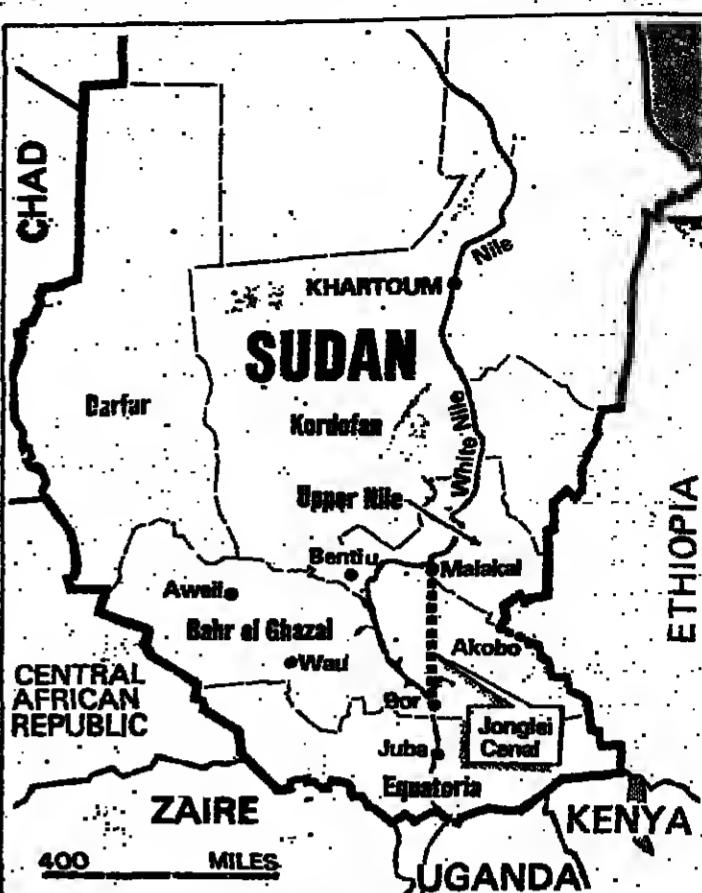
The Sudanese government has virtually no control over Darfur and the area along the Chad frontier. For years Chadian rebels have used the area as a base of operations for attacks on government forces inside Chad.

The military government of Lt.-Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir said Wednesday it is trying with "intensive diplomatic contacts" to stop fighting in western Sudan between forces of Chad's government and rebels opposed to it.

The Wednesday's statement marked the first time since Bashir came to power on June 30 that he has admitted that warfare had spilled into the sprawling Darfur region from Sudan's neighbour to the west.

It said the fighting between the Chadian factions had "inflicted heavy losses on the interest of the citizens of Darfur region."

The presence of the Libyan-



backed Chadian rebels in western Sudan have fostered increased lawlessness in an already lawless region.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### Israel to hear appeal in Demjanuk case

TEL AVIV (R) — Convicted Nazi war criminal John Demjanuk starts his appeal in Israel's supreme court Monday in a final attempt to prove he was not a sadistic guard who gassed to death hundreds of thousands of people in World War II. Demjanuk, 70, a Ukrainian-born car worker deported from the United States, is appealing against an April 1988 death sentence that would make him the first Nazi war criminal hanged in Israel since mass murderer Adolf Eichmann in 1962.

### Rebel rockets on Kabul kill 4

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan guerrillas fighting the Kabul government has killed four people in a rocket attack on the capital Kabul, the official Kabul Radio said. The broadcast, monitored in the Pakistani capital Islamabad, said the rebels fired 15 U.S.-made surface-to-surface missiles into Kabul's residential areas, wounding 11 people and causing economic losses. Kabul has come under frequent rocket attacks in recent weeks from the Western-backed guerrillas.

### Israel expects 150,000 Soviet Jews in '90

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's Finance Ministry estimates that 150,000 Soviet Jews will enter the country this year, nearly four times more than provided for in the 1990 state budget, Israel Radio has said. Treasury sources confirmed the report, which said Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had been briefed on the new estimate before a Sunday cabinet meeting at which the treasury will propose quadrupling immigration funds to \$2 billion. The original allocation, approved two months ago, was based on an immigration forecast of 40,000 this year, but 33,000 Soviet Jews arrived in the first four months alone, according to a Jewish Agency official.

### Qatari foreign minister changed

DOHA (AP) — Abdullah Ibn Khalifa Al Attiya resigned as foreign minister of Qatar Sunday, the Qatar News Agency reported. The agency said the Emir, Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani, accepted the resignation and named Mubarak Ali Al Khater as the new foreign minister. Khater was minister of power and water. The agency gave no further detail and no reason was immediately available for the resignation. But diplomatic observers noted that the change comes on the eve of a meeting of foreign ministers of the 22-member Arab League to prepare for a pan-Arab summit conference. Attiya was named Qatari foreign minister less than a year ago, in the first major ministerial reshuffle in the 19-year-old oil-rich peninsula state of the Gulf. Both Attiya and Khater entered the cabinet for the first time in that reshuffle which took place in August 1989.

### Pakistan to build pipelines in Iran

NICOSIA (R) — Pakistan has offered to build gas and oil pipelines for Iran and purchase Iranian crude, Iran's Minister of Economics and Financial Affairs Mohsen Nourbakhsh said Sunday. Nourbakhsh, who ended a four-day visit to Islamabad Saturday after attending a joint economic commission meeting, told the Iranian news agency (IRNA) two-way trade would top \$400 million this year. "The most significant agreements were reached in commercial, industrial, energy and cultural fields with emphasis on exchange of technical information," he told IRNA without giving details. He said Pakistan was willing to build oil and natural gas pipelines and cover part of its energy needs through imports from Iran.

## Freed Kuwaiti opposition leader to resume struggle for parliament

CAIRO (R) — A Kuwaiti pro-democracy leader detained for four days last week said Sunday he would continue campaigning for the return of the country's dissolved parliament.

Physician Ahmad Al Khatib renewed his call to boycott June elections for a less powerful interim assembly proposed by the government in place of parliament.

"We are proceeding with the same programme and making no changes," he told Reuters by telephone from Kuwait.

Khatib, a radical regarded by many activists as the symbol of Kuwaiti opposition, was arrested Tuesday night along with seven other politicians at a meeting which the government termed an illegal gathering to urge a boycott of the June 10 polls.

"We made no pledges to halt the campaign against the proposed house) and will meet as always on Tuesdays," said Khatib, a veteran Arab nationalist.

He has been bolding meetings Tuesdays for years to receive supporters and discuss their concerns.

He and 31 other former deputies launched a campaign in December to demand the return of the parliament dissolved in August 1986. But after a dialogue with loyalists and the opposition, the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, last month ordered the formation of the four-year interim assembly.

"We will call for a boycott of the illegal elections and the unconstitutional assembly," said Khatib.

Khatib, 62, was a founder of George Habash's Arab Nationalist Movement whose Palestinian branch later formed the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

He has been bolding meetings Tuesdays for years to receive supporters and discuss their concerns.

Noriega was toppled in the December U.S. invasion of Panama and was brought to the United States to face drug charges.

Klein offered no explanation as to how the weapons reached Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, a drug boss killed in a raid by Colombian police in December.

After Rodriguez Gacha's death, about 200 Israeli-made Galil assault rifles were found on his ranch.

The New York Times named Klein and Maurice Sarfaty, an Israeli owner of a produce business in Antigua, as responsible for the arms diversion.

Colombian officials say Klein is wanted for organising, training and equipping paramilitary groups. He has been declared fugitive from justice and may be tried in absentia.

Klein was asked about the strong showing of Muslim fundamentalists in the Jordan elections. "If you believe in democracy, human rights, and the freedom of the people to choose," he said, "then it is hypocrisy to criticise the results."

This problem of peaceful coexistence "has worried and puzzled other countries," Harb said. In Lebanon it is made more acute by "the struggle for power in the region." What is happening in Lebanon now, he said, "is not the democratic way of life." His hope in Lebanon, he said, is to "humanise" society "where all citizens are considered equal."

He said he provided self-defense training to Colombian farmers at the time of the Antiguan camp project. But the television report quoted him as saying the projects were not linked.

Princess Diana Hospital

Water and Sewerage

Police Complaints

Army Municipality

Complaints

Telephone Information

Armenian Medical Centre

Khadija Maternity

Alkhidra Maternity

Jaber Al-Khalid Maternity

Malha Maternity

Palestine Maternity

Shameem Maternity

University Maternity

Al-Mansour Maternity

Al-Muhajir Maternity

Al-Muhajir Maternity

Army Maternity

Queen Alia Maternity

Amman Maternity

Al-Sabeen Maternity

## Brotherhood restates hardline approach, rejects peace marches

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Muslim Brotherhood Sunday reaffirmed its rejection of a peace settlement with Israel and announced its refusal to take part in any demonstration or march calling for negotiations with the Jewish state.

Instead of calling for peace with Israel, said a spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood, "we remain steadfast on our call for holy war to liberate all of Palestine."

Abdul Latif Arabyat, a member of the Lower House of Parliament and spokesman for the Islamist bloc in the House, told a press conference that the movement would not officially participate in a march scheduled Monday to the bridge across the River Jordan organised by Arab unions and professional associations.

Arabyat said the Muslim Brotherhood had initially supported the march's central themes, which include a call for the right of the Palestinians to return to their homeland, but "now they are calling for peace with Israel."

One of the slogans expected to be raised by Monday's marchers is: "Yes to an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)." Arabyat reiterated the Brotherhood's rejection of the two-state solution pursued by the PLO.

"We will not participate in the march because we feel that its slogans are not compatible with our movement's principles," he said. "We are calling for jihad (holy war) to liberate all of Palestine; how can we participate in a march which calls for a small Palestinian state alongside the Zionist entity?"

Mohammad Abu Fares, another Muslim Brotherhood deputy who also attended the press conference, further explained that his group had accepted to support Monday's march on the basis that its central theme would be the dangers inherent in the massive Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine and the responsibility of both superpowers for bringing it about. "But now we understand that the slogans of the march have been changed," he said: "We reject and oppose any move which exonerates the Soviet Union, which shares a major part of the responsibility for the massive emigration to Palestine."

According to organisers, there are no slogans expected to be raised during the march singling out the Soviet Union as the major party responsible for the massive wave of Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel.

Arabyat reiterated the Brotherhood's opposition to another march planned by the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) and a national organising committee. He said the Brotherhood was calling on the organisers of the march, originally scheduled for June 1-3 but later postponed until Nov. 29, to "reconsider the objectives of the march."

The main theme of the ADC-organised march is a call for a two-state solution and negotiations between Israel and the PLO. Arabyat said the Brotherhood welcomed the organisers' decision to postpone the march, but said: "We hope that they would reevaluate their plans and turn their attention to the United States arena."

### U.S. policy assailed

Arabyat, reading a prepared statement, also launched a fierce attack on the United States, accusing it of "leading with determination and purpose, a camp of evil forces which fight our Arab and Islamic nations."

"The history of the United States dealing with our nations and our causes, particularly the sacred Palestinian cause, is full of slaps, punches and slaps against the dignity of the Arab Nation and the courage of Islamic Nation," he said. "It started with U.S. President Woodrow Wilson in 1918... and continues with today's Congress..."

"This American position should always be an incentive for our Arab and Islamic nations to put an end to the policy of submissiveness which engulfs us and which forces the U.S. to escalate its plots against our nation by making us pursue submissiveness and degradation..." said Arabyat, a secretary from Balqa governorate. "Our Arab and Islamic nation should adopt a dignified Arab/Islamic position that would put an end to the American moves and prove to it that the Arab and Islamic dignity is stronger than all attempts to assimilate and insult our nations."

The Muslim Brotherhood's reaffirmation of its hardline position as evident in the opposition to both marches was interpreted by political analysts as a splintering of the decades-old conflicting viewpoints and approaches adopted by the PLO and Islamic fundamentalists. These differences have become more pronounced in recent days as statements and tactics adopted by the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) and the PLO-supported underground leaders of the 29-month-old uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A senior PLO official, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, said the organisation would not be officially participating in Monday's march, "but individual Palestinian personalities might take part." The PLO position was seen by observers as a move to avoid further splits with the fundamentalists at a time when the organisation is engaged in a dialogue with a view to drawing them into the mainstream Palestinian leadership.

Arabyat reiterated a call issued earlier by the Brotherhood for an Islamic army. According to Abu Fares, "We hope that the Jordanian people will be the nucleus for the Islamic army. We hope to train every man, woman and the elderly to carry weapons to defend this nation and Jordanian soil."

### Constitution and charter

Both Arabyat and Abu Fares told Monday's press conference that the Brotherhood, the largest bloc in the Lower House with 22 seats, was seeking to address what it sees as "contradictions of Islamic laws in the (Jordanian) Constitution."

According to Abu Fares, some provisions in the Constitution "allow what is prohibited in Islam and prohibit what is allowed in Islam while one of the basic foundations of the Constitution is the reaffirmation that Islam is the formal religion of the country."

In separate comments to the Jordan Times, Arabyat said the Brotherhood, which joined the General Commission on drafting the national charter after objecting to the concept of the charter earlier, was seeking to clarify and reaffirm the points in the Constitution through the national charter.

Replies to questions at the press conference, Arabyat said the government had "fulfilled part of its commitments" made to the Brotherhood and the movement was "following up actions to ensure that the commitments are met in full." He did not elaborate, but referred the media to an "activity paper" produced by the Brotherhood.

In the paper, which summarised the activities of the Brotherhood in Parliament, the movement said it had submitted five documents to the House dealing with the economic crisis in Jordan, corruption, public freedoms, martial law, cost of living and unemployment.

The paper listed several measures adopted by the government as full or partial moves in response to the demands of the Brotherhood. These included a government move to preempt any law contradicting Islam, the formation of a committee to draft a law on financial accountability of senior government officials, release of frozen passports and lifting of travel bans, the establishment of a faculty of Sharia at Yarmouk University, guarantees for freedom of press and freedom of opinion, reinstatement of a number of employees dismissed for political/sectarian reasons, release of security/political detainees, abolishing security clearance as a prerequisite for government jobs, taking first steps towards abolishing unary, ban on serving alcohol aboard Royal Jordanian flights to Arab and Islamic countries, support for the intifada, a draft law on regulating the judiciary system, moves towards allowing a union for teachers, an austerity budget and initiation of legal proceedings against corrupt officials.

The paper said several of these measures went only part of the way in meeting the demands in full. These included the Brotherhood's calls for a total ban against Muslim producing, trading or consuming alcohol, the release of all "political/security" prisoners, the reinstatement of all those dismissed from their jobs for political reasons and support for the intifada.

On the last issue, the paper said while there was a "marked change in support of the intifada, it remains below the desired level." It also complained that the media was ignoring Hamas and its role in the intifada.

In his comments Sunday, Arabyat said the Muslim Brotherhood was "committed to freedom of the press as emphasised in our election manifesto." He said his group believed that new newspapers, magazines and other publications should be immediately licensed without waiting for the proposed national charter to be finalised.

The government has said that new newspapers and politically oriented magazines would be licensed only after the finalisation of the charter, which is expected to set the guidelines for legalisation of political parties the Kingdom.

Arabyat said the Brotherhood "welcomed objective, constructive criticism against it from the press," but rejected it when "such criticism becomes sarcastic... or when news of the Brotherhood is ignored or downplayed." He cited, as an example of what he described as the media ignoring or playing down the role of Hamas in the occupied territories.

## Turkey denies water deal with Israel

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkey's Ambassador to Jordan Oktay Aksoy said in a statement to the press published here Sunday that his country did not strike a deal with the Israeli government to sell it Turkish water.

"It is true that a Canadian company operating in Turkey has concluded a deal to sell water from Turkey to Israel but the Canadian company had announced its readiness to sell water from Turkey to any country in the Middle East including Jordan," the ambassador said.

Aksoy was reacting to earlier press reports about a deal between Israel and Turkey under which the latter would sell a total of 2.3 million cubic metres of water annually to the Jewish state.

"There is no need for worry or jumping to conclusions before a full report by the Turkish government on the matter has been issued," the ambassador said.

Turkey is keen on safeguarding its relations with the Arab World and therefore it is now studying a plan to lay two pipelines to draw water from Turkey to the Arab region, passing through Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states," the ambassador added.

Last December Turkey decided to cut off the flow of the Euphrates river for one month in order to fill the reservoir of the Ataturk dam, a decision which was reported to have precipitated a crisis between Turkey, Syria and Iraq.

## Industrial fair to be extended

AMMAN (J.T.) — An industrial fair due to end Sunday was extended until Monday, according to the Jordan Commercial Centre Corporation (JCCC) which organised the fair at the Amman International Fair Centre in Marj Al-Hamra.

"A JCCC statement said that between Wednesday and Saturday more than 10,000 persons, including diplomats, businessmen, merchants and individual citizens visited the fair and that several business deals had been concluded.

A total of 64 Jordanian firms and factories have been displaying samples of their products, used in construction works, at the fair which was opened by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Fariz.

According to Maher Arabyat, the fair's director, materials like glass, cement, brick, wires and cables, metal pipes, paint, nails, radiators, boilers, solar heaters, marble tiles, fibre glass, doors and shutters were among the various products on display.

The Housing Corporation, the Urban Development Department, the Royal Scientific Society and the Jordan Electricity Authority cooperated in organising the fair.

Ministry of industry officials say JD 112.3 million, in capital, are invested in the construction materials industries in Jordan which employ more than 6,000 workers.

## Ministry denies new AIDS cases

By Elia Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Ministry of Health Sunday denied reports published in Al Dustour newspaper about the discovery of two new cases of the killer disease AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) and said that the present number of cases of all AIDS victims in Jordan stood at 38.

Out of these seven have already died or left the country while the rest are being either proven cases of victims of AIDS or AIDS carriers placed under strict surveillance, according to Health Ministry officials.

The officials were commenting on a report in Al Dustour daily Sunday on the discovery of two AIDS cases of an Omani and a Chinese student in Jordan.

The report quoted Dr. Misleh Tarawneh, dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jordan, as saying that the Chinese student has already left

## Education systems in the Arab World need revision

AMMAN (J.T.) — Arabs of learning age are estimated now at 50 million and expected to increase to 73 million by the end of the present century, according to a draft resolution about education for the Arab World in the coming century.

The draft, presented during the second day of the three-day meeting organised here by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) also pointed out that 23 million Arabs looking for jobs for the first time in their life in the Arab World in 1990 will increase to 37 million by the year 2000.

The draft resolution was presented by Dr. Saadeddin Ibrahim, ATF's secretary general.

who also reviewed various educational problems expected to face the nation at the start of the coming century should the present educational situation remain the same.

"Given the present systems of education and the same circumstances, the problem of unemployment will aggravate and more educated citizens will find themselves without jobs," he said.

"Pursuing the same educational systems in the Arab World, he said, is bound to lead to a real catastrophe and education will become a real problem adding to the other numerous problems facing the nation," Ibrahim said.

The draft resolution suggested gradual improvement in the educational system by re-examining ideas, policies and contents of educational material and linking learning to the actual needs of the local communities.

The draft also contained information and statistics about the Arab World's population, the present educational systems, ideas about future strategies, training of teachers and financing education.

The ATF conference, due to end Monday, is expected to contain a declaration outlining the resolution and other ideas about education in the Arab World in the 21st century.

## Medical council stresses commitment

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education and Higher Education Mohammad Hamdan Sunday stressed the need to provide advanced health care covering all medical specialisations to all Arab citizens.

Addressing the 12th session of the Scientific Council for Gynaecologists (SCG), an affiliate of the Arab Council for Medical Specialisations (ACMS), Hamdan called for training the medical personnel to enable them shoulder their responsibilities and upgrade the profession.

Bataineh said the medical profession in general and the gynaecologists in particular, is "no longer a treatment process through which we compete to demonstrate our capacity and scientific and professional excellence, but rather a community assignment, the interest of the individual and

the community as a whole."

Secretary-general of the SCG Aref Bataineh reviewed the achievements made by gynaecologists, saying they still have a long way to go in order to achieve the great objective of serving patients and upgrading the profession.

Bataineh said the medical profession in general and the gynaecologists in particular, is "no longer a treatment process through which we compete to demonstrate our capacity and scientific and professional excellence, but rather a community assignment, the interest of the individual and

the community as a whole."

He also reviewed the council's activities and achievements in the light of the world technological changes and developments.

The council includes representatives of Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, North and South Yemen.

## Seminar reviews pollution, protection of environment

AMMAN (J.T.) — The University of Jordan Sunday organised a seminar on environment pollution in local communities and the delegates reviewed eight research papers dealing with means of combating pollution and spreading awareness about the issue.

Addressing the opening session, university Deputy President Mohammad Adnan Al Bakheit said the University of Jordan was giving due attention to the subject of pollution and the protection

of the environment through a special Human Resources Development Centre at the university.

Bakheit called on municipal and village councils, organisations and members of the public to do all they can to protect the environment.

Dr. Qandil Shaker, the centre's director, outlined the programmes being implemented by the centre and the seminars and meetings designed to spread

awareness about the need for protecting the environment in Jordan.

The eight research papers reviewed at the meeting covered such topics as dangers of pesticides, wastewater, danger to the ozone layer, and means of dealing with pollution.

The participants represented the World Health Organisation, several government ministries, the Royal Scientific Society as well as the University of Jordan.

## 'Return march' kicks off Monday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The public Arab march which is organised by the Jordanian professional unions and public committees will start Monday, May 14, 1990, the anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine.

The 'return march', as it is called, will start from the Pilgrims City (Madinat Al Hinjaj) in Nimir Valley at 10:00 in the morning and will proceed to the King Hussein bridge.

Public committees were invited

by the organising committee to participate in the march and were asked to carry banners that comply with the text of the unified slogan prepared by the organising committee.

The organising committee has asked any participating committee representing an institution or a group of persons, to form a sub-committee to take charge of keeping order within the group during the march.

Participants in the march were

asked to secure the means of transportation, which the committee said, preferably be collective (buses), and were asked to bring food and drinking water with them.

Members of the Jordanian professional associations were asked to help in the transportation process by using their private cars in carrying participants from the gathering centres in Amman and the governorates.

The following map shows the route of the march from the festival site to the gathering area.

The festival site is located near the monument of the unknown soldier. The march starts from the Salt, Wadi Shueib road and proceeds towards the gathering area.

The gathering area is located in the Pilgrims city, Nimir Valley.

The gathering of vehicles is located near the Salt, Wadi Shueib road.

The route of the march is as follows:

From Salt, Wadi Shueib road —> Towards the gathering area —> Gathering of vehicles —> The Pilgrims city, Nimir Valley —> The festival site.

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## Jordan Times

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## Water and energy problems and remedies

TWO fundamental issues have been simultaneously discussed by Jordanian authorities before they become insolvable. One is the water shortage and pollution, and the other is the energy problem which the Kingdom is projected to encounter in the coming years. The first danger has been discussed most recently at the level of the prime minister and senior government officials, and debated earlier within the context of a regional seminar on sustainable rural water supply development under the auspices of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in cooperation with the Economic Development Institution (EDI) of the World Bank and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and the Water Authority. The purpose of the seminar was to look into new sources of water, including non-traditional ones like recycling treated wastewater for farming purposes and desalination of sea water. Rationalisation of water use was of course uppermost on the minds of the participants at the seminar as this aspect is projected to be the overriding issue no matter what new water sources are improvised by one way or another.

In the realm of energy, the fact that the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST) is actively undertaking a feasibility study to set up a gigantic solar power plant that can produce no less than 30 megawatts of electricity is also a very timely preparatory action to face up to the imminent needs of the country in the coming few years.

The fact that the concerned Jordanian authorities are thinking of, studying and taking action on remedial measures to encounter two of the most formidable threats poised at Jordan's doorstep, proves that the country is taking the bull by the horns and where when necessary and is getting adequately ready in the face of these imminent dangers. Jordanians can feel more secure than ever now that they know that Amman is preparing the country for the future years with seriousness and determination. By confronting the water and energy problems head on, the country would be on safer grounds to tackle other dimensions of its development. These two principal challenges of the future have haunted the country for so long and it is a great relief that they are being debated and considered with all the vigour and stamina that the country can muster. In many ways to redress water and energy shortages and problems in an attempt to rectify them constitutes some form of an insurance policy for the future of the country that is urgently needed.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Sunday commented on a two-day meeting by representatives of professional associations in the Arab World and the topics to be discussed. The most pressing issue before these professionals as well as the whole Arab Nation in the coming summit is the Jewish immigration into Palestine and the continued challenge posed to the Arabs by Israel's policies and occupation of holy places, said the paper. It echoed Prime Minister Mudar Badran's address to the conference in which he reiterated Jordan's pledge to stand by the Palestinians at all costs and determination to rally Arab ranks for the sake of defending the holy places. The paper said that the conference is a cry out for all Arabs and Muslims and an appeal to the international community to help end the Israeli atrocities and stop the immigration of Jews into lands owned lawfully by the Palestinian people. The conference is a call on the Arab leadership to join forces and end side differences and stand together in the face of the common challenges, the paper continued. The conference, it stressed, is a reminder to the Arabs that they should meet at the summit level and should boldly face the common threats to the Arab Order and Arab security.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily criticises the Ministry of Education for its inconsiderate decisions concerning educational issues of concern to schools, students and parents. Salab Abdul Samad particularly singles out a recent decision by the Ministry of Education for cancelling the so-called spring holiday in the coming 1990-1991 scholastic year, only to rescind the decision a few weeks later. Does this indicate that the Ministry of Education takes time and effort in reaching decisions, or are decisions taken at random without ample consideration? The writer asks. There is a contradiction here between the two decisions and the justifications given for them; and there is a mystery about who takes such decisions, says Abdul Samad. The writer expresses his belief that the confusion behind all this is due to the fact that the minister has the upperhand, even though his views could mean contradicting decisions taken a few weeks earlier. Abdul Samad says the ministry ought to take into consideration all aspects of the educational process before issuing decisions, if the process is to remain stable and achieve its goals.

Al Dustour daily commented on Prince Hassan's address to the Arab Thought Forum conference about Arab education pointing to the developments in the educational fields witnessed in the Arab World over the past two decades. The paper reiterated the Prince's statement that the Arab World endeavours to pursue the march for development and education has been hampered in its efforts by the regional conflicts as well as the huge debts and poor economies. But, it said, that luminous events occurred in the 1980s and favourable developments emerged that can give the Arabs renewed hope for the future. It said that the new Arab awakening and the Arab countries' realisation of the need to unite, can give impetus to all efforts being taken in the field of education and development at all levels. The paper said that the new decade will be decisive for the Arab Nation which will have to embark on a new initiative towards further solidarity, development and progress.

## Palestinians sure uprising can survive right-wing government

By Sami Aboudi  
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Palestinians in the occupied territories, convinced an expected right-wing Israeli government will increase repression, say they are confident their revolt can survive a new onslaught.

"We are ready for the new, and perhaps the most dangerous phase in the history of the intifada (uprising), which I believe would not end the revolt," said Professor Sari Nusseibeh, a mainstream Palestinian nationalist leader.

Israeli caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is trying to put together a coalition with far-right and religious parties sworn to put down the 29-month-long Palestinian revolt.

Aides said they were not sure if Shamir would succeed in forming a cabinet this week or require a 21-day extension of his presidential mandate, but they ruled out another national unity government with the dovish Labour party.

Palestinians say unlike the former coalition between Labour and Shamir's hardline Likud party.

ty, a right-wing government would be less sensitive to international pressure and would spare no method to crush the uprising. Shamir's 15-month-old coalition with Labour collapsed in March when he refused to endorse U.S. proposals to hold the first Palestinian-Israeli peace talks in Cairo. Palestinians expect a rightist Shamir cabinet would freeze peace efforts.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

"The new government will send us back to square one from a political standpoint," said Ghassan Al Khatib, a Communist academic.

A senior Israeli defence official said despite fatigue and internal divisions, the motivation of Palestinians in the occupied territories to continue the intifada remains unbroken.

Many Palestinians say they expect the worst of a right-wing government — more bloodshed, expulsions, house demolitions and economic strangulation for the already battered 1.75 million Palestinians of the West Bank

and Gaza Strip. Intellectuals and activists say the uprising has gained new momentum in the last month, with almost daily widespread clashes as Palestinians try to seize the initiative again and vent their frustration at the fading prospect for peace talks.

In its latest regular leaflet, the PLO-backed unified leadership of the uprising had called for "more painful strikes against the enemy's army and settlers with stones and firebombs" to confront a right-wing government.

"Unfortunately we are going to face more loss of life and other losses in the near future," said Nusseibeh who believes that he and other East Jerusalem activists could be expelled after the new government is formed.

Israeli soldiers and civilians have killed at least 648 Palestinians and wounded tens of thousands since the outbreak of the uprising in December 1987.

Former Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, a senior Likud figure, has repeatedly called for the expansion of 50 leading Palestinian nationalists and for the closure of PLO-backed Arab newspapers, research organisa-

tions and trade unions.

Sharon, who masterminded the 1982 invasion of Lebanon to drive out the Palestine Liberation Organization, is demanding the defense portfolio in a new government.

But Shamir aides ruled out the former paratroop general for the key ministry.

"We know Sharon very well here," said Dr. Ahmad Al Yazi, a leading PLO supporter in the Gaza Strip, recalling that Sharon, as the army's southern commander, led an iron-fisted campaign to root out guerrillas in the area in 1970.

"Then he was dealing with 250 guerrillas, but now he has to deal with a million Palestinians who feel that their lives hinge on the continuation of the intifada," Yazi said.

"The intifada will intensify its challenge not only to Shamir but also to Sharon, who keeps bragging that if he becomes defense minister he will end the intifada."

"Even if he called the entire Israeli army out, he could not end the revolt," said a senior underground activist in the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas.

## Weekly Political Pulse

### Will the Arabs come to the rescue?

By Waleed Sadi

MAKE no mistake about it, the Israeli attack on His Majesty King Hussein's yacht on April 27 was deliberate. As a Royal Court spokesman confirmed, the April 27 incident was not the first to take place in the Aqaba Gulf against the royal yacht. And the fact that live ammunition was fired in the direction of the royal yacht with King Hussein visibly on deck makes the incident indeed "ominous" as the Royal Palace has characterised it.

There is more than shred of evidence to substantiate the fears that the attack on the royal yacht was an act of piracy. Suffice to recall that the Israeli naval boat which perpetrated the attack on King Hussein was within a mile of the Jordanian shoreline as it pursued the royal yacht. At one stage of the shameful pursuit the Israeli naval boat was no further than few metres from the yacht and close enough to allow the Israeli crew to take pictures of the King. As can be seen, Israel stops at nothing to pursue its sinister goals and conspiracies in the Middle East and against Jordan in particular. The extent Israel has gone to undermine Jordan and its regime has indeed reached treacherous proportions as evidenced by the attack on the royal yacht.

Such aggressive acts against the Kingdom confirms also the suspicions that Jordan and King Hussein are viewed by Israel as principal obstacles in the path of its schemes and designs against the Arab Order. Perhaps such concrete evidences offered by Israel on its intentions against the country would prop up the Arab World to take more concrete measures to boast Jordan's defences and well-being. The moral of the story is: the more the Arab countries act generously and sincerely to Jordan's pressing needs, the more Israel will view in support for Arab causes seriously.

## Baltic republics appeal

(Continued from page 1)

in the United States and with top leaders in Canada, France, Britain and West Germany.

Although she was well-received, most Western governments have adopted a cautious attitude towards Lithuania, unwilling to grant formal recognition for fear of causing more trouble for Gorbachev as he wrestles with economic reform, ethnic strife, arms control and other issues.

White House spokesman Marvin Fitzwater emphasised that Bush's May 3 meeting with Prunskiene did not change the U.S. policy of not formally recognising Lithuania as a separate country.

## LETTERS

### Smokers and passive smokers

To the Editor,

I AM writing about the concern I feel for the people of Jordan and the increase of smokers here in this country. In May I issue of the Jordan Times there was a very sincere letter printed about the inhumanity shown towards animals in this country. I write about the inhumanity shown to the people of this country who do not smoke but are subjected to the smoke of others. It is no less cruel to harm the health of those around you just because you have a habit you either do not want to quit, or find it too hard to do so?

Several years ago concerned doctors, scientists, environmentalists and educated men in the legislature started an anti-smoking campaign in America to make the public aware of the dangers smoking incurs. It is because of their concerted efforts that the people of the U.S. are finally waking up, throwing away their cigarettes, and quitting the habit. As a result, there has been a dramatic decrease in all kinds of cancer in the U.S. These above mentioned men have proven the dangers of smoking through years of research that proved that second-hand smoke is extremely harmful to the non-smoker. That left the tobacco companies worried, to say the least. They started a tough campaign to recind all the previous grounds that had been gained by these concerned men. It was to no avail. The reason? Because people had finally wised up to what they were doing to their bodies as well as to the people around them by continuing with this dreadful habit. So, in a desperate attempt to keep the profits pouring in, the tobacco companies of America are now pushing (with tremendous success) their products onto the Middle East, Far East, Near East and European markets. As a result their sales have not suffered in the least and have in fact increased due to the fact that more and more of these people are starting the habit of smoking.

Your country is now trying to start an anti-smoking campaign here out of concern for the Jordanian people. My plea to you today is to please listen to what they are telling you. Do not ignore the lives of others around you who have to breathe the air you are polluting. Think of this as a contribution you can make to "Earth Day" as well as to yourselves and to your families and loved ones. Most of all, do not let the conglomerates of foreign countries use you in this way. Do not let them take advantage of your unawareness on the subject. They love it and are laughing all the way to the bank every time you lay down your hard earned money on the grocer's counter for a pack of cigarettes. I say all of this out of the love I have come to feel for the people of Jordan and for this beautiful country. I also say all this out of experience. I smoked for 12 years, two packs a day, loved it, and didn't quit until I learned I was to have a baby. That was 7 years ago and I do not regret one second since I have stopped. I have lost two family members to cancer, cigarette related, and it hurts to think it could have been prevented. If even one person stops smoking because of this plea which I have made, I will thank God (who by the way states that our bodies are a temple and should be treated with the utmost respect) that it has served its purpose even to a small degree. Even one life would be worth it all. Thank you all for listening and God bless you all.

Reatha Nasrawi  
Amman.

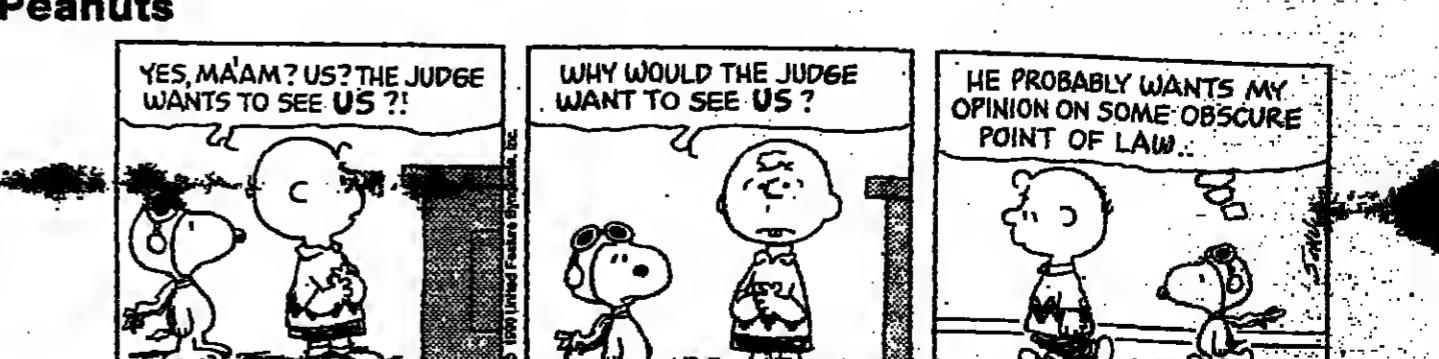
## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## Peanuts



JPJ, met it

## Features

**'Arab solidarity and united political action the only answer to dangers'**

By Nermene Murad

**THE MASSIVE** Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the occupied territories poses a multi-fold threat to the Arab World, and the only Arab answer to the danger is through solidarity and "United political decision."

This was the summary of a working paper presented by Lower House of Parliament member Taher Al Masri at a conference of Arab professional associations which opened here Saturday. The working paper offered a detailed review of not only the demographic threats posed to the Palestinians and Arabs by the Soviet influx to Israel and the occupied Arab territories but also the "inevitability of the implementation" of the Zionists plan for "greater Israel."

Noting that over 65,000 Soviet Jews would have left their native land to Israel by the end of May, rising to 150,000 the total number of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel during the year 1990, Masri, a former foreign minister, warned that if the massive number highlights the demographic threat to the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the scientific qualifications of the immigrants pose a danger of a larger magnitude to the Arab Nation.

"Information indicates that 35 to 40 per cent of these immigrants possess high scientific qualifications which could be of great benefit to Israel's technology," said the parliamentarian. Such added knowledge, he said, will "bring about

new horizons, a clearer supremacy and encouragement to Israeli expansionism at the expense of the whole Arab Nation."

Masri predicted that Israel would thus be further encouraged to pursue its plans and "force the same number (as the Jewish immigrants), half a million Palestinians, to leave occupied Palestine to Jordan."

"This would also mean that Arab national security is more threatened than ever," he added.

**"Egypt, Sudan, Syria and Iraq depend greatly on the Nile and Euphrates as a source of life; it is not a coincidence that we hear of all these dams being constructed in Turkey and Ethiopia"**

Masri quoted remarks made by Israeli caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in an interview with the Hebrew daily *Yediot Ahronot* that in order to accommodate the large number of Soviet Jewish immigrants Israel would "need a large plot of land to allow each immigrant the freedom to settle wherever he wants on this land."

Shamir also said that "the Arabs cannot stop this natural flow of Jewish people to their land and this, at the end, is the crux of the conflict," Masri noted.

These statements, according to Masri, clearly reflect the Zionist movement's past, present and future policy that "immigration and settlement are the core of Zionism."

"Just as it planned and occupied Palestine, the Zionist

movement also plans to occupy Jordan tomorrow and other Arab countries the day after, whether in the form of physical occupation or through clear control," Masri said.

The former minister also warned of the growing threat of Israel pursuing its theory of "the alternative Palestinian homeland in Jordan" since it has become the almost public policy of the right-wing Likud bloc headed by Shamir.

"It is precisely out of this thinking that Shamir made

sistently."

"The indications show that Israeli-Ethiopian cooperation is heading in this direction," he said.

Masri also pointed to the fact that despite the August 1988 ceasefire, "the Iran-Iraq front is still, although stable at this time, a pitfall which can start burning at any time."

He also warned that all these factors come together at a time when strategic studies of the region indicates that "Arab oil will return to the frontlines of world economy in the mid-1990s."

"We have to understand that current affairs in our region are only parts of greater strategic plans aimed at limiting the power of the Arab Nation and keeping it busy with internal conflicts," Masri said.

These strategic plans, according to Masri, target the economy of the Arab World and its unity "to hinder it from becoming a very effective power on the international arena, especially at this age of political and economic groupings."

He blamed Arab countries for their "short-sighted political decisions" and said that Soviet-Jewish immigration to Palestine had highlighted the Arab leaders' inability to "fulfil the hopes of the nation and its aspirations to confront the dangers surrounding it and its future."

"Official and public reactions to the threat of Jewish immigration highlight the difference between the leaders and their people," Masri said.

He accused the official Arab reaction as being "shy and de-



Taher Al Masri

layed," saying that the Arabs "have no political or economic or any type of weight except perhaps in the field of consumer marketing."

He concluded that the absence of Arab unity was the main cause of what he described as the three Arab catastrophes: in 1948, 1967 and 1989.

Masri said there was one positive element in the region at this time: The Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. "It is the only lit torch in the Arab darkness and the practical and realistic indication that the Palestinian people will not die," he said.

But he lamented that the uprising was not receiving the support it deserves from the Arab Nation. "This infadah, which is asking very little from its brothers, suffers from the injustice of its brothers," he said.

"It does not receive the financial and political support needed, and its mention has become a normal affair in Arab politics."

He pointed out that Jordan, "the twin of Palestine and the first defence line, also suffers from its brothers and friends."

**Awareness is growing in the West of realities of Jewish immigration**

By Lamis K. Andoni

This is the first part of a three-part analytical report on a symposium held in Amman last week on "U.S. policy in the Middle East."

ALTHOUGH one of the main factors shaping the Western attitude towards Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel remains "commitment to Jewish human rights," there is an increasing awareness of the grave repercussions of the massive immigrant influx on the Middle East peace process and Palestinian rights.

This rather slow albeit important shift was reflected in discussions held here last week among Arab intellectuals and politicians and a group of prominent Middle East experts from the University of Harvard. It was particularly expressed in the concluding assessments of the participants in the symposium, held under the title "American policy in the Middle East" and organised by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) between May 5-7. In the final session, the participants drew the attention of world governments to the dangers posed to the peace process by Soviet Jewish immigration and blamed some Western countries for not absorbing enough number of Soviet emigrants and thus forcing them to opt for Israel.

Judging by the two-day discussions and most of the working papers submitted, the apparent gradual shift could be attributed to a number of factors:

— Moscow's endorsement of a liberal and open policy regarding emigration of its citizens, particularly Jews, has almost always given to Jews' right to leave the Soviet Union.

— The discussions at the ATF also indicated that there are important points of disagreement between the Arab perspective and the American approach even among those who basically oppose the encroachment on Palestinian national rights and adverse impacts on the peace process.

The issue is still dealt with, to varying degrees, as a basic human right case and priority is almost always given to Jews' right to leave the Soviet Union.

This was particularly evident when, in the process of drafting the conclusions of the Amman symposium, several American academics almost automatically stated support for Soviet Jews' right to emigrate as the number one item. The initial draft drew expressions of strong resentment from Arab participants who argued that the issue at stake was not the right of the

Jews to leave the Soviet Union but the practical impacts of their influx to Israel on the peace process and Palestinian rights.

Moreover, while most American academics who condemn the exclusion of Palestinian rights try to draw a symmetrical relationship between Soviet Jewish immigrants' rights and Palestinian rights.

— In some ways — despite its grave consequences — the issue of Soviet immigrants seems to be refocusing the attention to the Palestinian people's right to return and self-determination.

— The U.S. curb on the number of Soviet emigrants it is ready to absorb is raising doubts among some Western and American academic intellectuals about American concern over "the plight of the Soviet Jews" and the Middle East peace process.

Preseodog a paper on the impact of the end of the cold war on the Middle East, Dr. Everett Mendelson from Harvard bluntly declared that the U.S. had demonstrated "a moral failure on the issue." It provoked U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Sudarath to counter that there was no deliberate American policy to limit the number of Soviet Jewish immigrants to the U.S.

To the final analysis, the points mentioned above could provide a basis for Arab action on the international level to counter Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine. Nevertheless, the discussions at the ATF also indicated that there are important points of disagreement between the Arab perspective and the American approach even among those who basically oppose the encroachment on Palestinian national rights and adverse impacts on the peace process.

This Western attitude — apparently for fear of being accused of opposing "Jewish human rights" — has so far prompted the Arabs, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), to avoid direct and explicit opposition to Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel "proper."

But in the symposium the issue was tackled in a more candid manner. Arab participants, particularly His Majesty King Hussein's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, strongly argued that Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel fits into Israel's systematic policy of annexing the occupied territories and creating new facts on the ground that would obstruct the peace process.

**'No shift in Soviet stand'**

(Continued from page 1)

modifications in the forms and means of support for the Palestinian movement, but this change will not influence the political support for the organisation.

Asked whether he thought the shift to the right in Eastern Europe would have a tremendous influence on the Soviet political process, Andropov reviewed the differences between the two situations.

"I do not think that a similar process can be repeated in the Soviet Union... it is not possible to make parallels between the two situations," he argued, but conceded that his country was facing a "very complicated situation."

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has expressed its support for the march "to Palestine," but a representative who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity maintained that the PLO's backing "will remain detached."

Some Palestinian personalities might participate in the march but not as an expression of official support for it," the PLO representative said.

The Muslim Brotherhood held a press conference Sunday in which it announced that while it was not participating in the march it was "not calling on our supporters to boycott it" (see story on page 3).

The main problem against the participation of certain political trends is seen by observers as an "indication of these political parties' rejection of the peaceful features of the march."

One political analyst pointed out that while the "right of return" is an objective for all Palestinians regardless of ideology or affiliation, "accepting the existence of an Israeli state is not."

Although the PLO has publicly recognised Israel's right to exist, its reluctance to publicly support the march "is an attempt at making amends with the view of the Islamists in its body," one observer said.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) as well as most Arab nationalists and Baathists are expected to take part in the march "in

the current changes in Europe which would increase European influence in the Middle East at the expense of the Americans," Andropov said.

He went on to say that the future role of Europe would be determined to a large extent by the idea of the renaissance of the two Germanies and what he described as "putting the European house in order."

He called for new structures and order in Europe and expressed a belief in "a common European house" involving all countries and systems in Europe.

Andropov said Moscow had invited him to host a direct Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. The idea was first aired by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during his Middle East tour last year. Andropov said there was no change in the Soviet position, "but these contacts should be preliminary to and linked with preparations for an international peace conference."

Andropov said that Moscow remains committed to an international peace conference in which all parties involved in the conflict, including the PLO, should take part.

"I do not think that there has been any major change on the Soviet position" since Shevardnadze's visit to the Middle East, he said.

Asked how the new changes within the context of perestroika were affecting traditional Soviet support for national liberation movements, Andropov deplored that there was a shift in the political approach: "From a political perspective we will continue to support national liberation movements, but the difference will be reflected in the means of this political support," he maintained.

Andropov refused to elaborate or give specific detailed examples but said: "The modifications in the means of support are largely dictated by domestic limitations which no longer allow for the same forms of support for national liberation movements."

He explained that the same applied to the PLO to the extent of

**All set for 'right of return' march**

(Continued from page 1)

announcing Soviet Jewish immigration," an advertisement by Zarqa Deputy Bassam Haddadin said Sunday.

However, until late Sunday, it was evident that certain political groupings would not officially participate in the march nor would they express "public support" for it.

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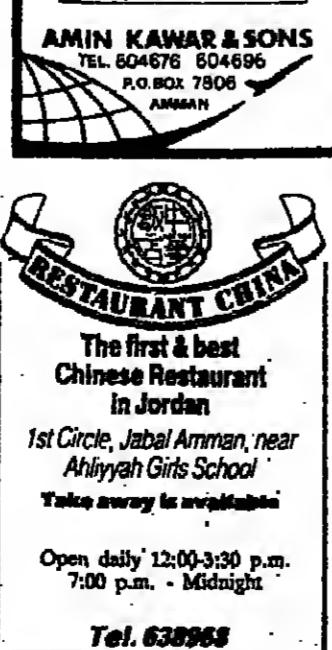
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new horizons, a clearer supremacy and encouragement to Israeli expansionism at the expense of the whole Arab Nation."

Masri predicted that Israel would thus be further encouraged to pursue its plans and "force the same number (as the Jewish immigrants), half a million Palestinians, to leave occupied Palestine to Jordan."

This would also mean that Arab national security is more threatened than ever," he added.



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## Iraq to raise oil price issue at Arab summit

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq and other Arab oil exporters, hurting from low prices, may tack's Gulf producers over output levels at this month's Arab summit, regional oil officials said Sunday.

"I do not have the slightest doubt that the issue will be discussed somehow, somewhere during the summit," a senior Gulf oil official told Reuters by telephone.

If prices fall further between now and May 28 Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are sure to face pressure to cut output, said the official, who regularly attends meetings of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The Arab summit in Baghdad has been called mainly to focus anger over the influx of Soviet Jews to Palestine.

But officials said that on the sidelines of the summit Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, supported by fellow OPEC members Algeria, Libya and non-OPEC Egypt, and Oman, was likely to ask Gulf Arab oil producers to limit output in an effort to raise prices.

At a meeting of the 13 OPEC oil ministers in Geneva on May 3, Iraq tried but failed to obtain strong commitments from Kuwait and the UAE to return to their output quotas.

Instead, the group opted for voluntary cuts intended to raise prices to OPEC's minimum reference price of \$16 a barrel. If implemented, the cuts would take away about six per cent of OPEC's total production of around 2.5 million.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, has already signaled it wants higher prices. Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer

told Reuters May 4 that the kingdom would not produce "a single barrel" above its OPEC share of 5.3 million.

UAE and Kuwait, with reserves that could last more than 130 years at present production levels, want OPEC's reference price of \$16 a barrel to stay unchanged until at least 1991 to encourage recent growth in demand.

Gulf based oil industry executives say Kuwait will only cut half the 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) promised at the OPEC meeting, remaining above its OPEC quota of 1.5 million.

The UAE has said it would reduce production by 200,000 bpd, but surprised OPEC delegates when it announced that the cut would be made from an output level of 2.1 million instead of the widely-expected level of two million.

"If the market does not respond because some of the members are not that serious in their commitments, then the issue will most probably be raised by the Iraqis," said the official who declined to be named.

"The Iraqis feel that OPEC decisions have not been definitive," he said.

He said President Hussein could rely on support from Egypt, Libya, Algeria and Oman. "You have to look at the countries who are hurt most," the official said.

Better prices are vital for countries like Egypt, Algeria and Iraq to help them settle foreign debts. Unlike rich Gulf Arab producers, they do not have spare capacity to increase output and benefit from the recent surge in world demand.

At present, OPEC's "basket"

of light crudes is around \$2 below the reference price of \$16 a barrel.

For the Arab countries, who own over 70 per cent of the world's proven oil reserves, this means a loss of around 32 million dollars a day.

### Riyadh in compliance

Saudi Arabia has complied with the recent OPEC agreement to cut oil production, Nazer said.

Speaking to journalists in Riyadh on his return from a visit to the United States, Nazer said the kingdom "has executed all that it pledged" at the OPEC meeting.

Nazer said the accord was a good one, and prices have now begun to rise gradually.

He said the summer period was traditionally difficult one for crude oil marketing.

Nazer visited the United States last week to review the operations of Star Enterprise, the kingdom's U.S. refining and marketing joint venture with Texaco Incorporated.

Later Sunday, Nazer held a meeting with his Iraqi counterpart Issam Al Chalabi during which the two ministers discussed the situation in the oil markets following the Geneva accord.

Chalabi was in Riyadh for the fifth meeting of the Iraqi-Saudi joint commission which is co-chairs with Saudi Commerce Minister Suleiman Al Soltan.

After the meeting with Nazer, Chalabi said he was optimistic that all OPEC states will adhere to the pact. He said Saudi Arabia and Iraq were committed to carrying out the Geneva decisions "until we witness an improvement in oil prices."

Traders at Wall Street, the world's biggest financial centre, are relieved after economic reports indicated that the U.S. economy is experiencing steady but slow growth without high inflation (file photo)



Traders at Wall Street, the world's biggest financial centre, are relieved after economic reports indicated that the U.S. economy is experiencing steady but slow growth without high inflation (file photo)

## Wall Street takes it easy

NEW YORK (AP) — In the long-running debate over whether the American economy is growing too fast or too slowly, Wall Street has begun to entertain the possibility that neither side is right.

A surprising run of statistical reports in recent days has prompted some analysts to toy with the idea that conditions are close to a happy medium — favouring continued slow but steady growth without any drastic change in inflation.

Few people in the forecasting business are content simply to proclaim "clear skies ahead" and flip the switches off on their computer-powered crystal balls.

As practitioners of the dismal science, they are paid to worry continuously about whatever might go wrong.

Still, just a few hints that the economy might be maintaining a healthy, sustainable momentum have been enough to lift the stock market to near-record levels of late.

For the moment, neither the inflation nor the recession worries that have beset the financial world in recent months appear to have come to fruition.

"Some economists are convinced that the economy could fall into a recession because there is a credit crunch in the financial markets," said Edward Yardeni at Prudential-Bache Securities. "We've argued that this is just another scare which will soon blow away."

The revival of optimism in the stock market by no means reflects a unanimously rosy view of the outlook.

Indeed, some economists on the street lately have lowered their estimates of growth for the spring and summer months, at the same time that others are raising their projections.

Inflation fears die hard, especially in the bond market. Furthermore, analysts remain mindful of how frequently and rapidly sentiment has shifted among investors recently.

"We believe the inflation scare has given false signals in the past," says the value line investment survey in its current appraisal of business prospects. "Volatility is likely to remain the order of the day."

The mood in the markets be-

## Corporations ignore oppression in battle for Burma

By David Brunnstrom  
The Associated Press

BANGKOK, Thailand — Governments worldwide condemned Burma's military rulers for killing thousands of pro-democracy demonstrators in 1988, but international corporations are vying to exploit the country's resources.

While government cut off aid to protest the killings, major U.S., Australian, British, and Japanese companies have secured agreements to extract oil in Burma.

Thailand, which made no protest, is exploiting its neighbour's rich teakwood and fish reserves.

After more than a quarter century of socialist isolationism, Burma is finally inviting

most severe economic reforms in world history.

Central Bank President Ibrahim Eris said the equivalent of \$85 billion, or more than two-thirds of the money in bank accounts, had been frozen.

Companies had big difficulties covering their payroll costs and some people predicted there would be a severe depression.

A few weeks later, the talk is different. Economists and financial analysts say companies, possibly through fraud, have unblocked a considerable amount of money. Fears of a depression have receded but inflation has not been checked.

Three major anti-inflation

plans under Collor's predecessor, Jose Sarney, failed to control prices and analysts said it was still an open question whether Collor would be more successful.

Economist Eduardo Giagetti da Fonseca of the University of Sao Paulo, who has studied companies' attempts to get at their frozen funds, said between \$10 and \$40 billion had been released in a bewildering number of ways, both legal and illegal.

Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso de Melo told the business newspaper *Gazeta Mercantil* that liquidity had increased from 9.6 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) to 14.1 per cent of GDP April 30. She put GDP at \$350 billion.

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The move on Collor's second day in office stunned Brazil. Economists described it as one of the

most severe economic reforms in world history.

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Three major anti-inflation

plans under Collor's predecessor, Jose Sarney, failed to control prices and analysts said it was still an open question whether Collor would be more successful.

Many diplomats predict an army-orchestrated election that will fail to soothe an embittered populace.

"It would be so much better if people could put human rights issues above economic issues,

especially in a country like Burma where the human rights issue is so pressing," she said.

But for business, profits come first, and some executives contend that their involvement will at least help the Burmese people by promoting a healthy economy.

Since last year, the U.S. oil companies Amoco and Unocal; Croft and Kirkland from Britain; Broken Hill Petroleum of Australia; Petro-Canada; the joint British and Dutch giant Shell; and South Korea's Yukong all have secured agreements to operate onshore in Burma. Idemitsu of Japan and Britain's Premier Petroleum have agreed to explore offshore in South Africa.

But diplomats say governments cannot keep companies out of Burma without approving draconian sanctions like those against apartheid in South Africa.

"Obviously we like to stay out of politics," said Pepsi's Barry Shea, noting his company had beaten rival Coca Cola into Burma.

## German monetary union draft omits key issues

BONN (R) — Experts from East and West Germany omitted some key issues when they agreed a draft treaty on monetary union, Bonn government sources said Sunday.

The treaty, which will form the basis for merging the two German economies in July, leaves out details on protecting East German property from Western speculators and on helping East German enterprises and farms to adapt to a free-market economy, the sources said.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) An excellent time for planning every aspect of whatever amusement you like the most and get congenial companions to consent to go with you.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Your judgment is fine how you can increase the accord between you and family members but for best results don't hesitate but make changes at once.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Don't be emotional but in any communications or calls make a point to be very cool and practical and you get a reputation for common sense.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You are a generous spender and in all money matters but this is the day when you see ways to build up your resources so you will have more assets.

VIIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You have very productive speech.

The draft treaty was finally concluded just before midnight Saturday after a marathon 30-hour session. This meant that Bonn and East Berlin were still on course to introduce the powerful West German mark into East Germany July 2.

A Bonn government spokesman said the draft would be handed to the two governments for negotiation and approval this week.

The parties in West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ruling centre-right coalition are due to debate it Tuesday. Kohl will brief prime ministers of West Germany's states Wednesday and the cabinet hopes to approve the treaty Friday.

The West German parliament should give its stamp of approval to the treaty in late June.

Kohl warned East Germany last week that the introduction of the West German mark was linked to sweeping economic reforms, such as property rights for non-East Germans.

That positive view took on some fresh urgency Friday, when word came of a 0.3 per cent drop in the producer price index of finished goods and a 0.6 per cent decline in retail sales last month.

That helped the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials post a 91.22-point gain for the past week to 2,801.58, not far short of the record closing high of 2,810.15 reached Jan. 2.

Other readings for the week showed the New York Stock Exchange composite index up 6.83 at 192.24, the NASDAQ composite index for the over-the-counter market up 9.49 at 438.10, and the American Stock Exchange market value index up 6.77 at 352.50.

Volume on the big board averaged 164.34 million shares a day, up from 139.90 million the week before.

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Indeed, some economists on the street lately have lowered their estimates of growth for the spring and summer months, at the same time that others are raising their projections.

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The mood in the markets be-

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY MAY 14, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Your charm, energy and a considerable amount of magnetism can help you turn unexpected problems into advantages today. Keep a highly objective point of view and enjoy the good aspects.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A day and evening when your usual activities are of first importance and by doing them with your most skill you can make extraordinary progress.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) An excellent time for planning every aspect of whatever amusement you like the most and get congenial companions to consent to go with you.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Outside activities of all kinds are the best media by which you can utilize your abilities to fullest advantage both today and tonight.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Be open-minded to all kinds of advanced and new interests now awaiting to come into your life and they could be developed to your benefit.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) An excellent day and evening for you to analyze and size up both what your greatest potential in assets is as well as your obligations.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20)

You have the chance to have extended conversations with various partners and associates and to arrive at a new meeting of minds with them.

## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

You're gorgeous  
Harold!

MORRA

CNOTH

LOWALT

DEEMLY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: HEAVY YOUTH TUSSLE DISOWN

Answer: His aptitude for platitude creates this in his audience—LASSITUDE

## THE Daily Crossword

by William Canine

ACROSS

1 Way  
5 Are  
10 Inappropriate<br



## Coup foiled in Madagascar

ANTANANARIVO (R) — Rebels seized the state radio station on the Indian Ocean Republic of Madagascar early Sunday, but the government quickly regained control after the coup attempt failed to secure mass support.

After several hours of confusion, the government said it was in control. Residents in the capital, Antananarivo, said police were firing tear gas at small groups of stone-throwing demonstrators supporting the rebels.

A rebel group took over Radio Madagascar, the island's only radio station, shortly after dawn and announced the setting up of a "republican government of public safety."

"The Democratic Republic of Madagascar is replaced by the Republic of Madagascar," the rebel statement said.

Four hours later, the radio broadcast a communiqué from Prime Minister Victor Ramahatratra saying: "All institutions of the state are in place."

He gave no further details and

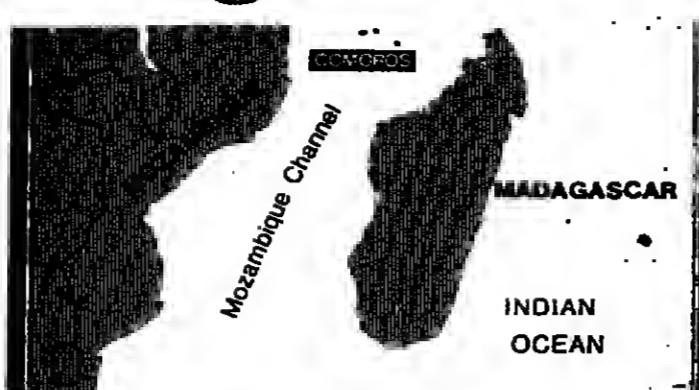
it was not clear what had happened to the rebels.

The rebels said their action was intended to end 15 years of dictatorship by President Didier Ratsiraka and his family which had impoverished the country. They named a retired army general as the new head of state before the radio fell dead.

Madagascar, one of the poorest countries in Africa with per capita income of \$200 a year, lies 250 miles off the East African state of Mozambique.

Diplomats and residents said 4,000 to 5,000 policemen loyal to Ratsiraka ringed the radio station. There were no other signs of military activity.

Only a small group of about 300 protesters responded to a rebel appeal to the population to



Map showing the location of Madagascar in the Indian Ocean, with the Mozambique Channel to the west.

take to the streets. They chanted anti-government slogans and threw stones at the police who responded with tear gas.

It was not clear if General Jean Rokotoharison, the man named in the rebel announcement as the new head of state, was personally involved in the coup attempt.

It appeared to be a carbon copy of a "radio coup" last July when six men seized the station and announced an end to Ratsiraka's

rule.

Madagascar, a former French colony, has started a programme of political liberation to complete economic reforms launched five years ago.

Political parties not linked to the ruling coalition were legalised in March.

About a dozen parties covering the entire political spectrum have since sprung up and diplomats say the present climate on the island would not favour a coup.

## Aquino wants to keep friendly ties with U.S.

MANILA (R) — President Corazon Aquino said Sunday, the eve of talks on the future of U.S. military bases whose lease runs out next year, that the Philippines wanted to preserve friendly relations with the United States.

But Aquino, speaking on national television, gave no hint whether she would agree to renew the lease on the bases, which Washington considers vital to the defence of the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Initial threats and protest rallies showing that national feelings against the bases is rising, police got "more than 1,000 men on alert" and 24-hour security for talks.

"We are entering into these talks prepared to maintain our friendly relations with the United States, keeping in mind that any friendship must be based on respect for each other's rights and adherence to principles," Aquino said.

The exploratory talks will determine whether the two countries will go on to negotiate a treaty allowing the United States to go on using Clark Air Base, Subic Bay Naval Base and four smaller installations in the Philippines.

Clark and Subic Bay are the

largest American military bases outside the United States.

Former Assistant Defence Secretary Richard Armitage arrived in Manila to head the U.S. team at the talks opening at the Central Bank building overlooking Manila Bay.

The tight security measures were prompted by warnings from Communist guerrillas that they would step up attacks on U.S. targets to force the removal of the bases.

Guerrillas have killed eight Americans in ambushes around the country during the past two and a half years.

Right-wing army dissidents, who have tried to overthrow Aquino in six coup attempts, accused Washington Saturday of intervening in Philippine affairs and said the bases must be scrapped.

About 700 left-wing protesters held a peaceful rally in a Manila plaza Sunday to demand the removal of the bases. Other left-wing groups planned a separate protest March to the U.S. embassy Monday.

The Philippines is expected to demand more money in exchange for extending the lease on the bases. Washington has said its budget is severely strained and it will move the bases if necessary.

## Pope calls on Mexico to legally recognise church

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II has completed a trip to Mexico during which he called for legal recognition of the church.

Pope John Paul declared Saturday that the Mexican government should not consider the Roman Catholic Church a constitutional enemy, but rather an ally in the fight for a more moral society.

"In a state of law, the full and effective recognition of religious freedom should be the fruit and guarantee of civil liberties," Pope John Paul told Mexico's bishops in his strongest call yet for legal recognition of the church.

Despite being overwhelmingly Catholic, Mexico has harsh restrictions on church activity, including bans on church property and participation in education and political life, that date back to 1859.

The church was for many years considered a reactionary force by the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, but in recent years the restrictions have been loosely enforced.

"The church in Mexico wants

to be considered and treated not as something strange, nor as an enemy that must be confronted and fought, but as an ally of all that is good, noble and beautiful," Pope John Paul said.

He made his remarks in an address dedicating a new headquarters for the Roman Catholic Episcopal Conference of Mexico in the industrial suburb of Cuautitlan, 15 miles north of Mexico City.

The Pope added that the church could help the Mexican government by strengthening family life and giving young people — the majority of the population — deeper moral values.

Pope John Paul also expressed "profound satisfaction for the climate of greater understanding" with the government, illustrated by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's recent naming of a personal envoy to the Vatican.

Pope John Paul also reviewed for the bishops many of the themes that he had already touched on during his stay in Mexico.

## E. German Stalinists beheaded political prisoners in 1950s

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's former Stalinist regime secretly guillotined 62 political prisoners and burned their bodies in the 1950s, according to the state crematorium director in Dresden.

"The time has come when I simply can no longer cover up," Dietmar Hildebrand told the East German News Agency.

He said he was speaking out because East Germany's new democracy had encouraged people to renew inquiries into the fate of relatives who were arrested and vanished in the early postwar era.

Quoting death certificates, trial records and statements by witnesses, Hildebrand said 62 people were beheaded between July 1952 and January 1960 in the former execution chamber in Dresden of the Nazi-era People's Court.

Victims were strapped to a plank without blindfolds in the

early hours and guillotined, he said. The bodies were burned at the crematorium which Hildebrand has headed since 1984.

To cover up the executions, Hildebrand said, government doctors listed natural causes of death, often heart failure, on obituary notices, relatives dared not challenge them.

The late Walter Ulbricht, the first of East Germany's two absolute Communist leaders, was in power at the time. Erich Honecker, who succeeded Ulbricht in 1971, was forced from office by a pro-democracy uprising last year.

Hildebrand's disclosure was the latest in an anguished public examination of East Germany's Stalinist past since the country embraced democracy last November.

Mass graves containing people killed by Stalin's security police in Soviet-occupied Germany shortly after World War II were discovered in March and April.

## Bush signs human rights proclamation on China

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush has signed a proclamation calling on Peking to "respond positively" to the pro-democracy aspirations of Chinese demonstrators who were violently suppressed a year ago.

Bush signed a congressional proclamation naming Sunday, May 13, a National Day in support of human rights.

The proclamation asked Americans to observe the day "in the spirit of commemorating those who died" around Peking's Tiananmen Square during a Chinese military crackdown.

It said people should observe the day, "drawing inspiration from the courage of those who held fast to their ideals in the face of violent suppression, and urging the Chinese government to respond positively to the fundamental aspirations for freedom expressed in last year's demonstration."

"These are the same fundamental aspirations as profoundly expressed by people around the world during the momentous events we are still witnessing — events that are daily advancing the cause of freedom and human rights."

Congress passed the proclamation Friday and sent it to the president.

Bush, the U.S. diplomatic representative to Peking in the mid-1970s, has been criticised for failing to take stricter economic and political measures to show disapproval with China's repressive and violent tactics.

The proclamation notes the June 3-4 violent attacks on thousands of Chinese protesters by tanks and armed forces.

"This action, far beyond the legitimate requirements of law and order, resulted in the deaths of hundreds of unarmed citizens," Bush's statement said. "In the months that followed, thousands more were detained and otherwise punished for their peaceful expression of political views."

However, he stated, "steps have been taken in recent months that have resulted in some improvement."

"The United States hopes that these steps will be followed by others that will demonstrate China's return to the path of reform," Bush said.

"Citizens democratic corps"

to be considered and treated not as something strange, nor as an enemy that must be confronted and fought, but as an ally of all that is good, noble and beautiful," Pope John Paul said.

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The Pope added that the church could help the Mexican government by strengthening family life and giving young people — the majority of the population — deeper moral values.

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